

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
(CDVSA)**

**Quarterly Meeting  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
109 W International Airport Road  
Anchorage, Alaska  
June 9 - 10, 2015**

**Committee Members Present**

Richard Irwin – Chair  
Rachel Gernat, telephonic  
Donna Erickson  
Commissioner Gary Folger  
Patricia Owen  
Chris Ashenbrenner  
Susie Frenzel  
Commissioner Ronald Taylor

**Staff**

Lauree Morton  
Angela Wells  
Mary Beth Gagnon - telephonic  
Freda Westman - telephonic

**Guests**

Bert Cottle, Mayor of Wasilla  
Donn Bennice, AFS  
David Wilson, AFS  
Saralyn Tabachnick, AWARE  
Cheri Smith, Lee Shore Center  
Suzi Pearson, AWAIC  
Keeley Olson, STAR  
Chas St. George - MyHouse  
Lisa Hay, LEAP - telephonic  
Michael, LEAP client - telephonic  
Brenda Stanfill, IAC - telephonic  
Eileen Arnold, TWC - telephonic  
Beth Borgarde, WISH - telephonic  
Holly Gittlein, MyHouse  
Ashley Stickman, MFCC - telephonic  
Michelle Overstreet - MyHouse  
Dawn McDevitt, SCS - telephonic  
Lynn Crane, USAFV - telephonic  
Jen Martin, MyHouse  
Peggy Brown, ANDVSA

**Minutes Prepared by:** Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Richard Irwin called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m., and roll call was taken. Richard welcomed Susie Frenzel, from the Department of Law, and Chris Ashenbrenner, from the Department of Health & Social Services to the meeting.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to approve the agenda for June 9, 2015. The motion was **SECONDED** by Donna Erickson. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

Lauree Morton proposed the following changes to the agenda for June 10, 2015:

9:00 a.m. Meeting Review  
9:30 a.m. Legislation Report  
10:00 a.m. Coordinated Prevention Plan  
10:30 a.m. Break  
10:45 a.m. Council Comments  
11:15 a.m. Public Comment for STOP  
11:45 a.m. STOP Plan  
12:15 p.m. Lunch  
1:30 p.m. FY17 Budget Meeting Preparation  
2:00 p.m. Batterers Intervention Programs  
2:30 p.m. Strategic Plan  
3:00 p.m. Adjournment

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to approve the amended agenda. The motion was **SECONDED** by Donna Erickson. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST INQUIRY**

Richard Irwin polled the Council members for any conflicts of interest, and none were reported

**CHAIR COMMENTS**

Richard Irwin commented that this CDVSA gathering is dealing with sensitive issues that can become personal. He described the process for the meeting. He explained that as leaders, the reality is that they must face the issues that are before them, and then in all they do they keep the big picture in their focus and not allow themselves to slip into the myopathy of their own sphere of influence or responsibilities, but to be concerned about the state of Alaska as a whole. He further commented that this is a time to act, not to react on information or challenges that they have before them, especially as it relates to funding. He encouraged everyone to be considerate of one another, to be patient in the process, and respect and value one another's input. He

stated that this is the time for collaboration, that it is required, not optional; and as they identify problems, they also need to propose solutions.

Richard Irwin recited quotes he felt would be beneficial to keep in mind:

- “If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together.”
- “A team is not a group who work together, a team is a group of people who trust each other.”
- “A pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; the optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”

## **MINUTES REVIEW**

### **FEBRUARY 2015**

Patty Owen **MOVED** to approve the February 2015 minutes as amended. The motion was **SECONDED** by Chris Ashenbrenner. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.  
(8/0)

## **TASK CHECK-IN**

Richard Irwin asked for volunteers to be on a Grant Award Appeal Committee, which would be an avenue where programs would have an opportunity to present grievances they may have regarding the process of funding awards. The following appointments were made:

- Richard Irwin, volunteer
- Donna Erickson, public member
- Patty Owen, state member
- Chris Ashenbrenner, alternate

Lauree Morton described the appeals process as once programs are notified of their awards, they have 15 days to make an appeal if they chose to. The Grant Award Appeal Committee will then meet to review the appeals.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Lauree Morton reported that with regards to CDVSA staffing, Diane resigned as their administrative officer, and that position has been filled. Stephen Bower has left the Council, and Freda Westman has stepped in as the Program Coordinator II. They currently have a vacancy for a Program Coordinator I.

The office carpet is slated to be removed and exchanged for sealed concrete if the floor is in good enough shape to do that. Staff is being temporarily housed at the Commissioner's offices.

The CDVSA staff is planning a retreat at the end of August after the FY17 budget decisions to plan out the next steps in both crisis intervention and prevention.

Because of the changes at the Council, Lauree Morton will send the CDVSA schedule to Council members and funded programs regarding the staff hours for contact purposes.

Lauree Morton reported that the financial report will be available at the July meeting. She noted that by June 30, they will be under spent by approximately \$50,000, which is mainly in the office budget due to lack of staffing and other cost-saving measures. The federal grants are on target to be spent.

Lauree Morton reported that they are having trouble with the federal grants management system related to the Grant to Encourage Arrest, so there has been some difficulty drawing down money from that particular grant, but they are working to resolve it. All of the programs are due to expend all of their funds, and the Council does not expect any programs to turn back money.

Lauree Morton reported on other federal projects as follows:

- With regards to the Sexual Assault Services Program, which is a formula grant to states of approximately \$200,000, there are four programs that are currently receiving the SASP dollars. One of the programs is the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, and they are providing sexual assault services to men and young boys. Lauree commented that it is great to see focus in that particular service area.
- Regarding the Grants to Encourage Arrest, partners of which include ANDVSA and the Alaska Institute for Justice focusing on legal advocacy and culturally and linguistically appropriate services in programs and in service provider agencies, one of the things that happened most recently is the Legal Advocacy Wellness Conference where there were 50 participants from across the state in attendance. They also did a series of webinars on the Network website including topics such as language access, military services, lethality screening, domestic violence/sexual assault laws, and other basic legal advocacy topics. The Network is working on developing a list of contact people in the tribes who are actually doing the legal advocacy work so that it will be easier to have direct communication. There were two regional trainings for court personnel and legal advocates, and there's been additional legal advocacy training in 19 communities.
- With regards to SART, they are in the process of talking about revising the training that they are currently providing, which is a 5-day, 37 ½ hour training. There has been some difficulty in freeing people up for five days to take the training, so they are looking at ways in which to shorten it to possibly three days. They are working on developing a training video over the summer to help people get comfortable with doing interviews with victims. They will also be working with the military, including JBER and the National Guard, looking at a two-day training for military advocates regarding sexual assault response. This training is

expected to be scheduled in early fall, and it is going to focus on the civil/criminal justice response to sexual assault.

Lauree Morton noted that Bethel is having difficulty with completing SART exams. Currently, the health corporation nurses are completing the kits, but they are not trained in the colposcopy and how to take photos. There are two nurses who have agreed to be certified, after which they will be able to have that part of the exam. Lauree noted that YK is offering incentives to the nurses to do the exams, and she suggested that that may be a conversation the Council may want to have regarding a statewide incentive program.

Lauree Morton updated the Council on the Victimization Survey, which is approximately 60 percent complete. There have been over 1,400 surveys completed out of the 2,200. They have only had six distress calls in which they discontinued the interview and offered other intervention. The Victimization Survey combined with the regional surveys over the past four years will produce expanded reports beyond the simple data results.

Lauree Morton reported that they have been working on the Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs Survey, which is a written survey. They were hoping for 800 responses, and have currently received 711. They are planning to have a draft report at the end of June and present on it at the July meeting.

Lauree Morton reported that they are having difficulty with the database, and the focus has been shifted as far as the materials used to generate the BIPs reports.

Lauree Morton reported that with regards to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, they were going to have questions every other year related to domestic violence and sexual assault, but instead this year they supported including Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) questions. They plan to get the number of ACES questions that people thought would be necessary to have into the survey, which in turn gave them an opportunity to provide some funding for the Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS).

Lauree Morton stated that the 2015 Dashboard is complete and posted on the website. There have been a few communities call and talk to them about the Dashboard and about how they can use it in their particular community. Lauree stated that it was nice to see that it is not just state departments using the Dashboard.

Lauree Morton directed Council members' attention to the program highlights in the packets for victim services and for batterers intervention programs. Lauree noted that they added emerging programs to give a sense of some of the things that are being started in various communities. She added that at the end of the reports there are outcome measures for victim services and behavioral health. The overall outcome measure is in the 70 percent range, which is higher than the National Family Violence Prevention and Services Act range (FVPSA), which is 60 percent.

Lauree Morton shared the good news that Ann Rausch was nominated by the Network for a visionary voice award for her work in prevention in Alaska from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. Ann was presented the award at a ceremony that was held in early June. Lauree Morton expressed that the Council was thrilled that they have a gem like Ann.

### **ANDVSA REPORT**

Peggy Brown, the executive director for the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault directed the Council members' attention to the report on the activities of the Network that was included in the board packet and highlighted the following activities:

Peggy Brown shared the information that every year the National Network to End Domestic Violence does a point-in-time count across the country, and the results came out on Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Approximately 18 of their 20 victim service agencies responded, and the following are some of the statistics in the state for that one 24-hour period:

- There were 292 domestic violence victims that sought emergency shelter, of which 116 were children. Of those, 83 percent were seeking individual support or advocacy; children's support or advocacy was 78 percent; emergency shelter was 72 percent; prevention services or education programs was approximately 56 percent; and 50 percent were seeking housing.
- There were 54 hotline calls in that one 24-hour period.
- There were 174 people educated in doing prevention work or education training in that one day.
- In that one day, there were 28 unmet requests for services, of which 39 percent were for housing.
- Regarding the cause of unmet requests for help, 28 percent of the programs reported there wasn't enough staff, 17 percent reported reduced government funding, and approximately 6 percent said there were cuts to private funding sources.
- There were comments that in the past year 18 staff positions have been cut in Alaska.

Peggy Brown reported that the national summary on that same day across the U.S. and the territories reported 67,646 victims were served in one day, and 10,871 people's requests for services were unmet, of which 56 percent of those were housing. There were 20,845 hotline calls answered across the U.S., and 23,506 people went to prevention and education trainings.

Peggy Brown stated that she did a flash survey of some programs with regards to the budget cuts and funding uncertainty. She queried the programs and asked them about the potential reduction in their funding, not including the Council funding, but including

housing, rent, and utilities assistance types of grants through Health and Social Services. She reported the following responses:

- AWARE - \$194,000
- Fairbanks - \$200,000
- Lee Shore - \$40,000
- SAFE - \$50,000
- SPHH - \$193,000
- TWC - \$175,000 to \$300,000

Peggy Brown stated that that information paints a picture of how everything is shrinking and the state is going into a phase of lean years, which hopefully won't last too long. Peggy offered to forward a detailed report to the Council.

Peggy Brown reported the good news that the Domestic Violence Deferred Maintenance Project will be starting this summer. They are readying barges with materials for the repairs to rural shelter programs. They have already met with the directors, the code and condition surveys are complete, and the funds are available. Peggy Brown reported the good news that the Network has started to focus on language access planning. Susie Frenzel commented that the Department of Law has access to a language coordinator and offered her assistance to the Network with that project.

Council members asked the following questions:

**Q: What are you worried about in the next year as far as the Network issues?**

A: Losing the ground that has been made with respect to prevention, and the concerns of healthcare and housing and what needs to be done in addition to shelter. Essentially prevention/crisis intervention, especially for rural areas.

**Q: On the language access funding, is it for immigrants or Alaska Native languages?**

A: We will prioritize Alaska Native languages.

Richard Irwin asked Peggy Brown to forward her concerns for the future of Network programs in writing to the Council.

### **MEETING LOCATIONS**

After a brief discussion regarding cost-saving measures that could be used to facilitate Council meetings, Richard Irwin recommended utilizing the Department of Safety's (DPS) airplane if it is proper to use it for this purpose. Other suggestions included video conferencing and team visits to rural programs. There were comments from Council members and guests that discouraged the Council from considering not sending the whole Council to rural/remote locations because of the importance of seeing the programs work and showing support for the programs.

The Council members agreed on the following meeting schedule:

- |                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| • 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter - May 2016  | Seward    |
| • 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter - Feb 2016  | Juneau    |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter - Oct 2015  | Kotzebue  |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter - Aug 2015  | Anchorage |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter - July 2015 | Anchorage |

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Patty Owen commented that she and Ann Rausch were in Anchorage facilitating a CBIM training for athletic coaches on male sports teams. The training was held in conjunction with the Anchorage School District's (ASD) summer academy. There were approximately 16 coaches from various parts of Alaska in attendance. There was some concern on how to sustain the training without dedicated funding, but Patty stated that it has a good base in Alaska, and hopefully the School Activities Association will continue to promote it and do some train-the-trainers in Alaska.

Patty Owen gave an update on the 4<sup>th</sup> R. They've had some master training on the 4<sup>th</sup> R curriculum for high schools, a curriculum called Healthy Relationships. It's a versatile program that can be done in a small group training in classroom-based and community-based settings. The curriculum addresses dating violence, bullying, and healthy relationships, and it also has a mental health and suicide prevention component.

Patty Owen mentioned that there is more work being done regarding school safety and school emergency preparedness. She is also drafting guidelines for schools on implementing child abuse/child sexual abuse, assault awareness, and prevention training.

Chris Ashenbrenner explained her job duties as program director for Medicaid expansion. She commented that she appreciated the opinion piece that Lauree Morton wrote emphasizing the importance of healthcare coverage for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Commissioner Folger commented that there was a two-day meeting in Fairbanks regarding the state of the budget for Alaska where the various departments broke into groups to filter through their services in order to determine critical functions of state government and review the funding. He was happy to report that CDVSA scored high. The second day of the meeting was focused on revenue sources to fund state government.

Lauree Morton noted that in March she and Richard Irwin were invited to participate in the United Nations Conference on Women where they presented on the faith-based work in the state and their work on engaging men and boys in the state. Lauree Morton commented that in national and international arenas, Alaska is on the cutting edge on primary prevention work, and people are looking to Alaska for ways in which improve



their own systems. She believes one of the reasons why is because Alaska weaves services together a comprehensive way that touches many layers of society.

Richard Irwin's comments spoke to the involvement of the faith-based community and bridging the past with today's voice of solutions to the issues facing the state. The faith leaders began convening to begin bringing solutions to the table for a healthier Alaska. The Shepherd's Care Forum has been hosted in Anchorage and Juneau, where a select group of faith leaders were brought together tasked with being part of the solutions for domestic violence and sexual assault. Richard's presentation at the United Nations Conference was well received. He described it as a privilege and an honor to have been chosen to present in that venue. One of the big things for him regarding faith-based involvement is that it has evolved from what was considered evangelical to spanning the religions across the globe, and it really made very obvious the need for being able to cross the barriers to collaborate together on the point of humanity, not on the points of a doctrine.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lauree Morton reviewed CDVSA's public comment policy, and noted that they have not received any written comments that need to be read into the record. Richard Irwin opened the floor for public comment.

A full transcript of public comment was prepared.

### **FUNDING DISCUSSION** **PREVENTION**

Lauree Morton began the funding discussion by asking the question, "Does CDVSA want to fund prevention in FY16?" If the answer is no, they would move on. If the answer is yes, then there will need to be a discussion on the possible ways to fund prevention with the resources available.

After a brief discussion, the Council agreed to fund prevention at some level for FY16. Lauree Morton noted the resource options available as follows:

- Training for Council members and staff \$ 10,000
- On-site evaluations \$ 15,000
- BIP programs \$200,000
- Emerging Programs \$200,000
- Victim Service Grants Line unknown

Lauree Morton noted that as an option at the federal level, the Victims of Crime Act Grant was significantly increased for federal FY15, which starts October 1<sup>st</sup>. In the past, the Council has received \$1.2 to \$1.4 million, and the Council had made a practice to bring all of the money into the grants line. About four years ago, they started bringing 75 percent of it into the grants line in the first year, and 25 percent in the second year so that the programs could receive money in July, August, and September while waiting for the new VOCA grant to start again on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The amount that Alaska is receiving

for federal FY15 has increased to about \$4 million to be expensed over a 48-month period. Lauree Morton encouraged the Council to carefully consider spreading it over the four years as the state situation with general fund dollars will not improve anytime soon, and they want to ensure that they have some federal money coming in in years 2, 3 and 4. However, she thinks for FY16, they could move some of that VOCA money, so instead of spending a quarter throughout the four years, they could bring part of that money into FY16, which will give everybody some breathing room to try to research where to get more prevention money. She noted that VOCA money cannot be used for prevention. It has to be used for direct services.

During discussion, Council members expressed needing a bigger picture of the impacts of cutting funding to existing areas and using VOCA funds to fund prevention, and also a detailed budget for prevention in order to determine an appropriate amount of funding for prevention.

After discussion, the Council members were agreeable to reallocating funds from the \$10,000 for training for Council members and staff and from the \$15,000 for onsite evaluations. The VOCA funds that would be available to move would be \$600,000. With regards to the BIP, the Council members were agreeable to continuing the BIP funding for FY16 at \$200,000. The Council members directed Lauree Morton to research the availability of federal money for emerging programs in order to liberate \$180,000 of general funds and report to the Council in July. The Council members would also like to see a prevention priority budget based on \$625,000.

#### **PEC REPORT: FY2016-2017 VS GRANTS**

Rachel Gernat explained the Program Evaluation Committee (PEC) process and how they came to the recommendations for the Council. Rachel addressed the public comment regarding her ability to be impartial, noting that the question of a possible conflict of interest was vetted through the Council prior to her signing the no conflict of interest, and it was determined that she had no conflict of interest and she could proceed. With regards to the direct comments made that she has an interest in MyHouse, she stated that she does not, and she also does not have a close relationship with the applicant as she has never met the director in person and was not advocating for or against any provider. With regards to the comments made about Maniilaq and because of questions by other committee members, she and Donna Erickson provided background information regarding Maniilaq's funding history, noting that they were not advocating for or against the provider.

Donna Erickson noted that it took many hours of pouring over the programs' proposals. It was a long process, and there was deep discussion about the tough decisions that had to be made. With regards to the Alaska Family Services and MyHouse proposals, she explained that the reason that funds were liberated from AFS and reallocated to MyHouse was because MyHouse was filling a vacancy in services related to providing shelter for a demographic that was not being served. Rachel Gernat noted that the

recommendation from the PEC regarding the AFS reallocation of funding to MyHouse came with a special condition that there is an MOA between AFS and MyHouse.

Rachel Gernat directed the Council members' attention to the PEC recommendations, which were included in the board packet, and stated that recommendations included programs that were granted funding from Maniilaq's program reduction. Those programs were AWARE for transitional housing, CFRC for workers' compensation deficit, KWRCC for the loss of their Turning the Tide funding, SAFE for the loss of their My Space program funding, and SCS to fund a part-time staff position.

Richard Irwin opened the floor to questions from the Council as follows:

**Q: Why is VFJ funded in service programs?**

A: VFJ receives VOCA funding. Ten percent of the funds go to victims other than victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or child abuse, and that's the category under which VFJ fits is the other violent crime victims.

**Q: Has Maniilaq been on a corrective action plan, and have they not met their goals?**

A: Maniilaq has been on a corrective action plan, and they have not met their goals.

**Q: Are they going to continue on a corrective action plan?**

A: If their funding is continued, yes.

**Q: If they meet a benchmark of level of improvement, would their funding be expected to increase in any quarter of the year as their performance increases?**

A: That is the current arrangement.

**Q: Was the decrease to AFS an amount or a specific area or service?**

A: It was a general decrease.

**Q: Is AFS's shelter operating full and they don't have the capacity to serve the new program population?**

A: It's not that they are at capacity and cannot serve the program participants. The population of MyHouse is different at 18-24 years old.

**Q: Were there other programs that had overlapping populations?**

A: The PEC did not identify any other of those kinds of concerns.

**Q: Regarding the review of AFS, has the Council identified any deficiencies or corrective actions that would lean towards a decrease in funding?**

A: No. They recently had an onsite last winter, and there were not significant recommendations. In the last couple of years, there had been difficulty in expenditure of funds, they have had to turn funds back, so for a couple years instead of being on the advance basis, they've been on reimbursement. Lauree Morton recommended that they return to advance of funds for AFS.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to move to executive session to discuss the PEC recommendations. The motion was **SECONDED** by Donna Erickson. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

The Council resumed regular session having made no recommendations.

### **ADJUST PEC RECOMMENDATIONS**

Lauree Morton reported the adjustments to the PEC recommendations, and the awards were moved as follows:

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to restore the \$31,546 for Alaska Family Services with the condition that for the first quarter of FY16, they work collaboratively with MyHouse and establish a MOU in the first quarter to be completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>, and the Council will withhold 10 percent of the award until that is done. Also, the Council will make a decrement of \$7,218 to the increase that was recommended for the Kodiak Women's Resource and Crisis Center, an additional decrement of \$17,328 to Maniilaq Family Crisis Center, and a decrement of \$7,000 from the Victims for Justice. The motion was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gary Folger. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to add special conditions for the Maniilaq Family Crisis Center; that they continue to agree to be funded as a domestic violence/sexual assault resource center and crisis line, not a shelter; continue to restructuring for optimal operation; that they give priority to the city of Kotzebue residents and they maintain the advisory committee that they've established with their partnership agencies and program participants; and they continue to advise CDVSA staff of the committee and its members. The motion was **SECONDED** by Patricia Owen. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED. (8/0)**

The Council is also in agreement to bring in VOCA funds of approximately \$600,000.

### **RECESS**

The Council meeting recessed at 5:45 p.m.

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
(CDVSA)**

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**Committee Members Present**

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**Guests**

David Wilson, AFS  
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Lynn Crane, USAFV – telephonic  
Peggy Brown, ANDVSA

**Staff**

Lauree Morton, Executive Director  
Angela Wells  
Freda Westman - telephonic  
Ann Rausch – telephonic

**Minutes Prepared by:** Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Richard Irwin called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., and roll call was taken.

**MEETING REVIEW**

Richard Irwin stated that he is relieved that the Council does not have to deal with difficult funding issues each time they meet. He expressed his appreciation to the Council members for their participation and cooperation in the financial matters.

**LEGISLATION**

Lauree Morton directed the members' attention to the legislation update, which was included in the board packet, and noted there is a summary of the bills that are related to domestic violence and/or sexual assault, for example electronic monitoring, reducing sentences, and providing an ability to change sentences. Lauree Morton will be looking for a consensus from the Council by January regarding what level of involvement the Council would deem appropriate for the next legislative session.

Lauree Morton highlighted the following bills of concern for the Council:

- SB91 is important for CDVSA to weigh in on, because it opens up the Protective Order statute and deletes language added to the statute in 1996 that explains contact initiated by the petitioners does not nullify the respondent's responsibility to abide by the order that prohibits the respondent from contacting the petitioner. The Council does not support the removal of that language.
- SB117, which relates to tribal court diversion programs, and Lauree Morton asked to put this on the watch list, as there are some qualifiers regarding previous convictions of sexual assault or fourth degree assault involving domestic violence that would prohibit that situation from being diverted into tribal court.
- HB154/SB49, which relates to civil legal services and would allow certain court fees to be appropriated into a fund from which civil legal services could be funded. This bill is supported by the Council.
- HB60/SB25, which are minority bills that are meant to address some of the concerns about sexual assault in the military, particularly in the National Guard, and the lack of ways in which to allow victims to bring their complaints forward. The Council has concerns with the way the bill is written.
- HB44, which is the vehicle of what is now the Alaska Safe Children's Act that was previously known as Erin's Law, and it relates to child abuse and training for teachers and children and parents and about dating violence. HB44 is in a state

of flux where language has been added and removed. This is a bill of concern for the Council.

Chris Ashenbrenner suggested that HB148/SB78, which are the Medicaid expansion bills, be put on the Council's radar as they are very important to people who are or have been victimized. Chris also requested that the Council consider a resolution supporting Medicaid expansion and reform. Lauree Morton stated that the Council is currently tracking those bills.

The Council members had a discussion on how much effort it takes to be involved at different levels with legislative issues and the importance for the Council to have a voice with regards to legislation that affect their cause. Council members recommended that staff write a brief on what the difference would be between what the Council is doing now regarding legislation watch and what is being proposed and present at the next meeting. This will help the Council members to make an informed decision. Richard Irwin recommended that Council staff have a conversation with the Network and other partners to see what their engagement in the legislative process is.

### **COORDINATED PREVENTION PLAN**

Lauree Morton directed the members' attention to the Coordinated Prevention Plan included in the board packet, and noted that the Kids Club and Mom's Empowerment Update should have been included in the ED report. She stated that there is a ramp-up meeting of the first year scheduled where the evaluator from Washington will be reviewing the activities of the program and making recommendations for FY16.

Lauree Morton reviewed the history of the Coordinated Prevention Plan. She highlighted the priorities for prevention that are being recommended in moving forward as follows:

1. Support quality early childhood programs.
2. Ensure access to health care, including behavioral health care.
3. Strengthen capacity for social emotional learning throughout Alaska's schools.
4. Maintain and expand prevention efforts that have proven to be effective.

Lauree Morton stated that the work was viewed through the lens of adverse childhood experiences and what could be done to reduce adverse childhood experiences.

Lauree Morton stated that this was being brought forward to the Council for approval as a plan of prevention to move forward. It would dovetail into the Pathway for Prevention Plan, which is a statewide plan that involves more than just the executive branch of state government and offers ways in which the non-profits, tribal organizations, and other entities can communicate and look for coordinated funding, coordinated joint programs and projects, and lay a foundation for how they want to gauge activities.

Council members were in agreement to move forward with the prevention plan.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Commissioner Ron Taylor reported that with regards to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), Governor Walker has to make assurances that they are going to be in full compliance with all of the requirements of PREA, and the Governor was unwilling to fulfill that request since the state of Alaska is not in full compliance with the PREA standards. Further, the state of Alaska cannot in good faith sign an assurance that the state will dedicate funding and resources on PREA compliance efforts given the state's current fiscal situation. The Governor stated that this was not a statement of refusal to comply, rather the state will continue to work towards implementation of PREA standards as they are able but will do so independently of any federal assistance. Commissioner Taylor explained that what they struggle with in terms of PREA is that it does not only impact DOC, it impacts Public Safety and the Juvenile Justice system. There are some things that are going to prevent both DOC and Public Safety from coming into compliance with PREA standards around staffing and resources in terms of being able to house people separately, and the financial resources it would require to be in compliance would be in the millions. The state has actively worked to bring the agencies into compliance as much as possible given the limitations they have on their system.

Lauree Morton explained that the Council's interest in this relates to the STOP Plan, along with other grants that will suffer a penalty because the state is not in compliance. Lauree stated that there are two options related to the penalty; take the penalty and not receive those funds, or use the funds associated with the penalty to help the state come into compliance. Currently the STOP Plan includes the concept that the Council would provide the penalty funds to DOC or Juvenile Justice to help them to come into compliance. Since the Governor has certified that the state is non-compliant, although they are actively working on it, and the state is not going to be compliant for the next couple of years, it may mean there will be a penalty, and the ability to put those funds towards helping with compliance won't be available.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW**

Richard Irwin directed the members' attention to the Strategic Plan included in the board packet to continue the review of the goals as follows:

### **Page 6: Goal 6**

**Change:** No change.

### **Page 7: Goal 8**

**Change:** No change.

### **Page 7: Goal 7**

**Change:** No change.

### **Page 8: Goal 9**

**Change:** No change.

Donna Erickson **MOVED** to adopt the revisions and accept the Strategic Plan. The motion was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ron Taylor. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED. (7/0)**



Richard Irwin commented that there are concerns that when issues arise specifically related to DV/SA in the state, the Council would be advised of those situations rather than the Council finding out through public sources. He asked for suggestions on how these issues can be brought to the Council preemptively so the Council members can be proactive versus reactive to sensitive issues. Commissioner Ron Taylor suggested contacting Amanda Price at the Governor's office to coordinate communication and possibly offer her a regular time on the meeting agenda for updates.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present or signed up to give public comment.

### **SERVICES TRAINING OFFICERS PROSECUTORS (STOP) PLAN**

Lauree Morton directed the members' attention to the STOP Plan, which was included in the board packet and included an update on the activities under the plan. The Office of Violence Against Women would not approve the plan until the Council had consulted with the tribes or given an opportunity for all 228 tribes to offer comments. The Council developed a plan that was approved in November to make that available. The report includes the dates the Council met with the tribes, the comments that were forwarded, a summary of how the tribal consultation was performed, the actions that the Council has taken, and the revised implementation plan.

There were comments regarding the importance of SART and needing to include not only VPSOs, but VPOs and TPOs in law enforcement training on domestic violence and sexual assault. There was a suggestion that when there is regional training, invite the first responders, but also extend the invitation to the tribal council in that area. The six tribes that submitted comments talked about the need for the state to interact better with tribes and consider what the tribes were suggesting. There was also some concern that the tribes were not properly notified of the teleconferences or they didn't receive materials. The Council procured a list of tribal contacts from the State of Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs and used that list to contact the tribal entities to request that the tribes update the information to reflect the current contact personnel.

Chris Ashenbrenner **MOVED** to adopt the STOP Plan and move forward. The motion was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ron Taylor. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED. (7/0)**

### **PREPARATION FOR FY2017 BUDGET MEETINGS**

Lauree Morton presented the Council members an opportunity to request the type of information they want to have available for the budget discussions at the July meeting. The prior information provided included:

- Federal funding available and criteria.
- Information on funding amounts for programs, victim services, and BIPs for a look-back period of time.
- Office budget, personnel costs, travel costs.

The Council members requested the following additional information:

- Prevention budget.
- Audits of the current programs, strengths and areas for improvements.
- Priority activities that were not funded for the service agencies.
- Previous year's increment requests.
- Information regarding cuts to grants that come from other entities that affect the current programs.

### **BATTERER INTERVENTION PROGRAMS**

Lauree Morton stated that the Council agreed to retain the \$200,000 for the BIPs for FY16. A decision needed to be made as to whether or not the Council wants to extend the current projects for FY16. There was not an RFP because there was uncertainty about the funding. Commissioner Ron Taylor noted that until the regulations are approved, there are no new projects coming forward.

Commissioner Ron Taylor **MOVED** to extend the current BIP funding for one year. The motion was **SECONDED** by Donna Erickson. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED. (7/0)**

Lauree Morton opened the floor for a discussion on the regulations and how the Council wants to move forward. She stated that the regulations are with the Department of Corrections' attorney, and there is concern regarding the broad expansion of the regulations. The Council responded that the purpose of the revision was to make it broad. Chris Ashenbrenner suggested scheduling a meeting with the DOC attorney, Commissioner Ron Taylor, and Lauree Morton to explain the intention of the revision. Lauree Morton further commented that the Council may want to have a discussion in July about the real cost of BIPs. She noted that the \$200,000 only partially funds six community-based programs. There are 15 approved programs in the state, three of which are prison-based programs. She would like to have on the record that this is not the amount of money that is needed to do programs. There was a general consensus of the Council members to have that discussion.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Richard Irwin opened the floor for Council member comments.

Susie Frenzel commented that she was pleased to be included in the meeting, and she appreciates the hard work and dedication of the Council and its staff.

Chris Ashenbrenner commented that she appreciated being at the meeting, and she will be at the next meeting.

Patty Owen commented that when the Council looked at the Coordinated Prevention Plan and identified those priorities, which included early childhood development and education programs, at the time the Council thought public education K-12 was a given

in terms of its benefit to health and social problems in Alaska, and she wanted people to remember that a strong public education system itself increases and improves people's health status and improves quality of life and decreases social problems. A strong public education system needs to be a piece that's intact along with those other priorities that were identified, such as early childhood and access to healthcare.

**ADJOURN**

Richard Irwin thanked the Council members and the Council staff for their contributions to a very good meeting and adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

**Approved: 8/19/15, P.D.**

## INDEX OF ACRONYMS

AAVP	Anchorage Alliance for Violence Prevention
AFS	Alaska Family Services - Palmer
AHFC	Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
AJP	Alaska Justice Project
ANDVSA	Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
APD	Anchorage Police Department
AST	Alaska State Troopers
AVV	Advocates for Victims of Violence - Valdez
AWAIC	Abused Women's Aid in Crisis - Anchorage
AWARE	Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies - Juneau
AWIC	Arctic Women in Crisis - Barrow
BIP	Batterer Intervention Program
BSWG	Bering Sea Women's Group - Nome
CBIM	Coaching Boys Into Men
CDVSA	Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
CFRC	Cordova Family Resource Center - Cordova
CUBS	Childhood Understanding Behaviors Study
DBH	Division of Behavioral Health
DHSS	Department of Health & Human Services
DOC	Department of Corrections
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOL	Department of Law
FVPSA	Family Violence Prevention Services Act
GOTR	Girls on the Run
GTEA	Grants to Encourage Arrest
HOPE	Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies
HUD	Housing & Urban Development
IAC	Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living - Fairbanks
KWRCC	Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center - Kodiak
LSC	Lee Shore Center – Kenai
MFCC	Maniilaq Family Crisis Center - Kotzebue
MOA/MOU	Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding
OCS	Office of Children's Services
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OVW	Office of Violence Against Women
PRAMS	Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System
PREA	Prison Rape Elimination Act
PEC	Program Evaluation Committee
RFP	Request for proposals
SAFE	Safe and Fear Free Environment - Dillingham

SAFV	Sitkans Against Family Violence - Sitka
SAP	Sexual Assault Prevention
SART	Sexual Assault Response Training
SASP	Sexual Assault Services Program
SCS	Seaview Community Services - Seward
SPHH	South Peninsula Haven House - Homer
STAR	Standing Together Against Rape - Anchorage
STOP	Services Training Officers Prosecutors
SVSEP	Supervised Visitation Safe Exchange Program
TA	Technical Assistance
TWC	Tundra Women's Coalition - Bethel
USAFV	Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence - Unalaska
VCCB	Violent Crimes Compensation Board
VJF	Victims for Justice – Anchorage
VOCA	Victims of Crime Act
WAVE	Working Against Violence for Everyone
WISH	Women in Safe Homes - Ketchikan
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey